

Product code: 3484

Thistledown, Cunning Plan Shiraz, McLaren Vale, South Australia, Australia, 2020



Producer Profile

Ever since historic Scots, James Busby and John MacArthur founded the Australian wine industry in the early 19th century, the relationship between Scotland and Australia has been an enduring one.

Guardians of a long history, Thistledown Wine Co. continues the tradition of Scottish ingenuity and great Australian wine. From their small-batch winery in the idyllic Adelaide Hills, they work with pristine fruit sourced from iconic vineyard sites.

Viticulture

The beautiful region of McLaren Vale is bounded by the Gulf to the West and the various ranges to the East and North. Geologically one of the most diverse regions on earth, it has long been the home to some of Australia's finest expressions of Shiraz. The fruit comes from the Moray Park vineyard in the McLaren Flat sub-region. Low yielding and ultra-intense, they handle the fruit gently to capture the delicious berry fruit character, overlaid with subtle wood-spice.

Winemaking

Winemaking is simple with The Cunning Plan. Take perfectly balanced fruit, pick, gently crush to preserve whole berries and allow to soak for 4 days prior to a wild fermentation. Pressed off to 300 litre French hogsheads, of which 15% are new, where the wine ages for 10 months prior to bottling unfinned and unfiltered.

Tasting Note

Great depth of ripe plum and blackberry fruit flavours. A full bodied wine with a succulent palate, lively spices and fine velvety tannins.

Food Matching

Heart stews, Asian hotpots, cold meat cuts.

Awards

The Wine Front 92 Points

Sourced from a vineyard in McLaren Flat. 15% new oak. No black adders included in the crush. Blackberry, plum, dark chocolate, a little vanilla and spice, attractive floral and slightly minty perfume here too. It's fleshy, all the chocolate dipped plums, a meaty character, fleshy but supple tannin, and fairly long salted plum aftertaste. Nice wine. Classic hearty regional stuff. 92 Points, GW

James Suckling 92 Points

This plump and juicy shiraz has attractively ripe aromas and flavors of red plums that are coated in chocolate, as well as some tarry hints and dark cherries. The palate has depth and approachability with a plush, lip-smacking finish. Drink over the next six years. 92 Points, NS, 2021.

Technical Details

Varieties:

Shiraz 100%

ABV: 14.5%

Closure: Screw cap

Colour: Red

Style: Still wine

Case Size: 6 x 75cl

Oak Treatment

Time: 10 Months

Type: French 300 Litre

% wine oaked: 100

% new oak: None